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ATTENDANCE LIST

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Welcome

SL welcomes the members of the EEF Clean Sport Working Group and expresses his confidence to hold a fruitful meeting and to continue with positive results over the coming weeks until the conference on NSAIDs in August and, finally, the FEI GA in November. He informs about the documents tabled. EO mentions that IJRC never receives official information e. g. on how testing works, Athletes' Guide, etc. In this meeting she is however present on behalf of NF MON, not as IJRC representative.

1. Update on latest developments in FEI and NFs present

The members update the Working Group on progress and developments in their respective countries and NFs. HH leads through the FEI time frame issued in a press release on 9 March and gives some background information.

SL:

- National rules have been revised and have been in effect since 28 April 2010
- Information campaign for national riders, trainers, vets,... started with positive feedback
- National lists of prohibited substances will be revised after FEI GA decision aiming at harmonisation of national and international lists
- National working groups established to prepare for this harmonisation ("political group" and "national list group"), holding first meetings within next two weeks
- Other activities coming along with rule changes are: Out-of-competition testing of squad members' horses, national MCP programme (300 to 350 samples in addition to 1,500 so far) in competition, investment of additional 100,000 € per year in scientific research on detection times (s far varying between 50,000 and 100,000 €).

AG:

- SUI has FEI rules in principle, still applying 2009 FEI rules
- Ordinance might change animal welfare rules and make them stronger
- Yellow/red card system in place for many years, but not made use of a lot
- Good education programme already, has to get tougher
- Have some difficulty with finding and training national judges who are willing to take responsibility
- FEI rules were main item at squad meeting in January
- National working group on future doping policy

EO:

- Law requires NF to respect list of FEI
- Close cooperation with authorities on identification of toxic concentration of substances, but this leads to control by authority and problem like with Flunixin
- Not many MON riders because it is difficult to get MON nationality

JS:

- GBR education programme of 7 Anti-Doping days for all international riders, covering human and equine topics
- Formal consultation for everyone on website is under construction
- NF observes that the low level (international) riders are much more worried than top professionals who do not inform themselves in that depth
- New set of national rules based on FEI rules is being prepared, aiming at implementation in January 2011. In this context it turns out that especially stabling conditions are a very sensitive subject for riders, fearing cross contamination etc.

NK:

- NF is governed by National Anti-Doping Association (AFLD), situation is unchanged with regard to what is and is not allowed.
- AFLD has the authority to test at international events in France if they are asked to by the FEI or if they request the permission of the FEI to do so.

KKA:

- Situation in NOR is quite similar to FRA
- No chance whatsoever that authorities might allow NSAIDs in competition. The same applies to the NF.

The members generally agree that different rules at international events in different countries would be a disaster because it would be too difficult to inform riders and grooms.

2. Define goals of CSWG

The group agrees on the main questions that need to be clarified:

- a) Are the consequences of NSAIDs being allowed in competition so extreme that sport in certain countries will be in danger?
- b) Are there welfare issues against NSAIDs being allowed in competition?
The CSWG needs to answer these questions and make the situation in (some) European countries clear to FEI and other NFs.
- c) EEF must speak with one voice and achieve that other NFs take into consideration the European situation (where nearly 80 % of the sport takes place) while voting during the FEI GA. The group refers to the EEF statement of February 2010 that a joint solution is aspired that is valid worldwide. But it must also be applicable to the ethical and legislative preconditions in our catchment area. It would be wrong to approve of a global policy that permits the use of a substance in some countries of the world, but not in others.

Methodology of work:

- Identify legal situation
- Analyse scientific information
- Analyse public opinion and NFs philosophy
- Come to a conclusion

3. Prioritise topics for CSWG

The members agree to the following order of priority in the topics to be worked on:

- a) List of prohibited substances
 - + deliver feedback to FEI to support the process
 - + propose substances to be analysed
 - + propose what NFs can contribute to activities
 - + develop an EEF position throughout spring and summer
- b) Education
- c) New FEI structure/guidelines for training of officials
- d) introduction of worldwide MCP
- e) the need for additional testing in future
- f) Hyperflexion
- g) Practicability of other rule changes
 - + accreditation of vets
 - procedures for treatments

EO elaborates on her understanding of the topic “Education”. Riders are very worried about the new rules. The problem is that they do not visit the FEI website and do not read the relevant information.

EO and AG present their booklet “Awareness” to the Working Group. FEI is interested in a cooperation. At the same time EO and AG offer all NFs to cooperate. The book is available in English, French and Italian so far and being translated into German right now. The book

explains the general situation and the most important facts in a manner that is easy to understand. The book is being updated now and available with 2,000 copies.

4. Discuss topics individually

a) List of prohibited substances

The CSWG raises the question at which stage repeated supportive treatment during an event exceeds acceptable limits. This question is to be answered by the FEI Veterinary Committee; it leads the Working Group into a serious discussion about the system of the sport.

As a result of the discussion the CSWG concludes: The EEF remains extremely concerned that the removal of NSAIDs from the prohibited list in whole or in part may have a considerable impact on the welfare of equines in FEI competitions. The EEF will publish its formal statement on this issue once it has had an opportunity to review the results of the scientific research referred to in the press release of 9 March 2010 and to consider the outcomes of the subsequent consultation.

Group members are asked to hand in proposals for substances to be analysed (detection times) by 31 May.

b) Education

- Education means prevention
- Help riders, grooms, vets, etc. to understand rules and to avoid mistakes
- Problem: They do not read the documents
- Seminars need to be organised by FEI at shows for riders and grooms
- feicleansport.org is a very good website. However, it may have to be improved on the substance database by introducing the commercial names. There is no common agreement if this is practical.
- CSWG sends questionnaire to EEF members asking which NF has organised seminars to inform international riders. Depending on the feedback, CSWG, IJRC, FEI and the respective NFs can organise such seminars at shows.
- EO will draft a programme for such a seminar.

c) New FEI structure/ Guidelines for training of officials

- FEI is currently working on new structure
- Working Group met before Easter and on 29 April, identifying the need to revise the proposed documents
- This is in process, we are waiting for results.
- Levels I, II, III
 - 3-day seminars for levels I and II
 - Level III officials are appointed by FEI
- Dressage/Jumping follow the same system, Eventing is still hesitating
 - good that there is a strict course system with exams
 - only very few Stewards will be able to work in more than one discipline

d) Introduction of worldwide MCP

- FEI MCP Working Group in May 2009
- Minutes in July 2009, no revised version after comments from participants
- Nothing proposed to FEI GA 2009, no changes made

e) Practicability of other rule changes

JS explains that representatives of NF GBR are concerned that the practicability of the recent rule changes is not considered and thought through well enough due to the discussion about NSAIDs. Of concern are questions such as definition of treatments or stabling by discipline instead of by team or accreditation for major Championships, especially Olympic Games. This will make day-to-day management for the team leaders very difficult and put their level of control in danger.

Stable security is a huge concern for riders who fear that someone else might dope their horses to sabotage them. In practice among the FEI tribunal cases of the last two years there was no single case of claiming sabotage.

A mixed zone outside the stable can be a helpful.

- Watch development this year, especially in Kentucky
- Come up with observations and recommendations

5. Outline the future work process of CSWG

+ Division of tasks in preparation for the next meeting

- Minutes: SL
- WG members: propose prioritised list of substances to be analysed until 31 May
- HH/SL: Questionnaire about education seminars
- SL: send detailed answers of EEF questionnaire to Janice
- EO: draft a seminar programme
- HH: catch up with FEI asking about availability of scientific information

+ General time frame

- Prepare statement for NSAID conference: **early August**
- Prepare information for EEF General Assembly: **late August**
- Prepare second statement for FEI General Assembly: **early/mid October**

+ Date and Place of the next meetings:

- **Hickstead on Tuesday, 3 August morning (arrival on Monday)**
- **Lausanne on Wednesday, 18 August following the FEI Congress on NSAIDs**